

441—113.18 (237) Training and discipline of foster children.

113.18(1) *Foster parents' methods of training and discipline.* The evaluation of the foster parent shall include a discussion and written report of the foster parents' methods of training and discipline. Discipline shall be designed to help the child develop self-control, self-esteem, and respect for the rights of others.

113.18(2) *Restrictions on training and discipline.* Child training and discipline shall be handled with kindness and understanding.

- a.* A child shall not be locked in a room, closet, box, or other device.
- b.* No child shall be deprived of food as punishment.
- c.* No child shall be subjected to verbal abuse, threats or derogatory remarks about the child or the child's family.
- d.* The use of corporal punishment is prohibited.
- e.* Restraints shall not be used as a form of discipline.

(1) Reasonable physical force may be used to restrain a child only in order to prevent injury to the child, injury to others, the destruction of property, or extremely disruptive behavior.

(2) The foster parent shall receive training on the safe and appropriate use of restraints which has been approved as a part of the treatment plan by a licensed practitioner of the healing arts who is working with the child.

113.18(3) *Reports of mistreatment.* Reports of mistreatment coming to the attention of the supervising worker shall be investigated promptly and referred to the proper authorities when necessary.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 234.40 and 237.3.